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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/831,878	05/16/2001	Jean-Yves Dujonc	T2147-907163	9933

181 7590 10/06/2004

MILES & STOCKBRIDGE PC
1751 PINNACLE DRIVE
SUITE 500
MCLEAN, VA 22102-3833

 EXAMINER

DALEN COURT, YVES

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2157	

DATE MAILED: 10/06/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/831,878	DUJONC ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Yves Dalencourt	2157	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 16 May 2001.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-7 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-7 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>05/16/01</u> . | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____. |

Art Unit: 2157

DETAILED ACTION

This office action is responsive to communication filed on 05/16/01.

Please update the status of the related application mentioned on the first page of the specification.

Specification

Applicant is reminded of the proper language and format for an abstract of the disclosure.

The abstract should be in narrative form and generally limited to a single paragraph on a separate sheet within the range of 50 to 150 words. It is important that the abstract not exceed 150 words in length since the space provided for the abstract on the computer tape used by the printer is limited. The form and legal phraseology often used in patent claims, such as "means" and "said," should be avoided. The abstract should describe the disclosure sufficiently to assist readers in deciding whether there is a need for consulting the full patent text for details.

The language should be clear and concise and should not repeat information given in the title. It should avoid using phrases which can be implied, such as, "The disclosure concerns," "The disclosure defined by this invention," "The disclosure describes," etc.

Therefore, " means " (line 5) and " comprises " (line 6) in the abstract are implied; and should be avoided.

Please delete "#9143048v1" at the bottom of the abstract, and also the numbers and parenthesis in the abstract.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1, and 3 - 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Coile et al (US 6,473,406; hereinafter Coile).

Regarding claims 1 and 3, Coile teaches a relay machine (330, fig. 3) linked to a client network (client 302, fig. 3) by means of a first physical interface (310, fig. 1) and linked to a server network (server 304; fig. 1) by means of a second physical interface characterized in that at least one internetwork protocol address of a server machine linked to the server network, distinct from the relay machine, is associated with the first physical interface (col. 5, lines 36 – 48), and in that it comprises a first relay application for receiving datagrams addressed to the server machine from the client network and for sending to the server network datagrams addressed to the server machine (318, fig. 3; paragraph bridging col. 7, line 42 through col. 8, line 45; see abstract).

Regarding claim 4, Coile teaches a method for processing by means of at least one relay application running in a relay machine (330, fig. 3) between a client network (client 302, fig. 3) and a server network (server 304; fig. 1), datagrams sent through the client network by a client application to a server machine with the address in the server network, distinct from the relay machine, characterized in that it comprises a first step that associates said address with a physical interface of the relay machine that is not linked to the server network (col. 5, lines 36 – 48), so that the relay application receives said datagrams without the need to configure or inform said client application in order to

do so. (318, fig. 3; paragraph bridging col. 7, line 42 through col. 8, line 45; see abstract).

Regarding claim 5, Coile teaches a method, characterized in that the first step is preceded by a second step for routing the datagrams transmitted through the client network, addressed to the server machine, to the relay machine (paragraph bridging col. 7, line 65 through col. 8, line 10).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

Claims 2, 6, and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Coile et al (US 6,473,406; hereinafter Coile).

Regarding claim 2, Coile teaches a relay machine (330, fig. 3) linked to a client network (client 302, fig. 3) by means of a first physical interface (310, fig. 1) and linked to a server network (server 304; fig. 1) by means of a second physical interface characterized in that at least one internetwork protocol address of a server machine linked to the server network, distinct from the relay machine, is associated with the first physical interface (col. 5, lines 36 – 48), and in that it comprises a first relay application for receiving datagrams addressed to the server machine from the client network and for sending to the server network datagrams addressed to the server machine (318, fig. 3; paragraph bridging col. 7, line 42 through col. 8, line 45; see abstract).

Coile discloses the claimed invention except for associating the relay machine with a third physical interface, distinct from the first physical interface and from the second physical interface. It would have been an obvious variation in design to add a third physical interface associated with the relay machine, since applicant has not disclosed that the third physical interface solves any stated problem or is for a particular purpose and it appears that the invention would perform equally well with the first and second interfaces.

Regarding claim 6, Coile teaches all the limitations in claim 2, but fails to specifically teach a method for processing, characterized in that the application uses encryption keys to transmit encrypted messages received from the network in decrypted fashion in side the network.

However, "Official Notice" is taken that the concept and advantages of using encryption keys to transmit encrypted messages received from the network in decrypted fashion in side the network is old and well known in the art.

Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Coile's device by using encryption keys keys to transmit encrypted messages received from the network in decrypted fashion in side the network for the purpose of highly increasing security by not allowing connections from potentially hostile machines to a machine that stores sensitive information.

Regarding claim 7, Coile teaches all the limitations in claim 2, but fails to specifically teach a method for processing, characterized in that the application uses encryption keys to transmit unencrypted messages received from the network in encrypted fashion in side the network.

However, "Official Notice" is taken that the concept and advantages of using encryption keys to transmit unencrypted messages received from the network in encrypted fashion in side the network is old and well known in the art.

Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Coile's device by using encryption keys keys to transmit unencrypted messages received from the network in encrypted fashion in side the network for the purpose of highly increasing security by not allowing connections from potentially hostile machines to a machine that stores sensitive information.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Smith et al (US Patent Number 6,308,238) discloses a system and method for managing connections between clients and a server with independent connection and data buffers.

Wesinger, Jr. et al (US Patent Number 6,052,788) discloses a firewall providing enhanced network security and user transparency.

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Yves Dalencourt whose telephone number is (703) 308-8547. The examiner can normally be reached on M-TH 7:30AM - 6: 30PM.

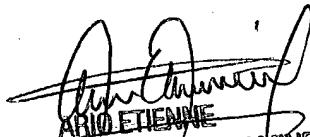
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ario Etienne can be reached on (703) 308-7562. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Yves Dalencourt



September 24, 2004


ABID ETIENNE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100